

REMARKS

In the above-mentioned Office Action, all of the pending claims, claims 44-45, 47-81, 84, 86-104, and 106-108, were rejected. Claims 44-45, 47-52, 56-70, 72, 75-81, 84, 86, 90-97, 104, and 106-108, were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Nishimoto and Bowen. Claims 71, 89, and 98-103 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Nishimoto, Bowen, and Hughes. Claims 53-55 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Nishimoto, Bowen, and Lookofsky. Claims 73-74 and 87-88 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of Nishimoto, Bowen, and Grant.

Responsive to the rejection of the independent claims over the combination of Nishimoto and Bowen, independent claims 44 and 104 have been amended, as set forth herein, in manners believed better to distinguish the present invention over the cited combination.

With respect to claim 44, the claim has been amended, now to state that the complete alphanumeric keyboard has keys and forms a unitary keyboard structure and that the keyboard is located adjacent to, and below, the display. Claim 104 has been analogously amended.

Support for the amended recitations is found in the disclosure, e.g., on page 4, lines 7 and 17, page 14, lines 21-22, and page 15, line 16.

The independent claims, as now-presented, are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the combination of Nishimoto and Bowen, and, therefore, the rejection of claims 44 and 104, as now-presented, is respectfully traversed. Specifically, the Applicants traverse the Examiner's reliance upon Nishimoto for showing a keyboard located adjacent to, and below, a display and for showing a keyboard having keys forming a unitary keyboard structure.

While Nishimoto discloses, in Figures 3 and 4, alphabetic key layouts 26 and 27, which are stated to be the same as a QWERTY typewriter layout, the Applicants assert that the displays are not keys, but rather, as stated in Nishimoto, merely characters that are displayed at a display region 2b of a display 2. The Applicants note that Nishimoto's disclosure, while referring to keys or characters at column 3, line 33, otherwise refers to selection of characters by a cursor key

5. That Applicants assert, therefore, that Nishimoto fails to disclose a keyboard having keys that form a unitary keyboard structure, recited now in the independent claims.

Additionally, Nishimoto fails to disclose a keyboard that is mounted adjacent to, and below, a display. Rather, the software keyboard of Nishimoto is displayed in a software keyboard display region 2b of the display 2. While Nishimoto also shows an input data display region 2a, the regions 2a and 2b merely form regions of the display. That is to say, the keyboard cannot be both on the display and below the display.

Neither Bowen nor the other references were cited for disclosing, nor appear to disclose, the alphanumeric keyboard, configured in the recited manner and mounted in the recited manner. Accordingly, no combination of Bowen or any of the other references can be combined with Nishimoto to create the invention, as now-recited.

The dependent claims, which include all of the limitations of their respective parent claims, are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited references for the same reasons as those just-given with respect to their parent claims.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, independent claims 44 and 104, and the remaining dependent claims dependent thereon, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration for allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. Such early action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/Robert H. Kelly/

Robert H. Kelly, Registration No. 33,922

KELLY & KRAUSE, L.P.
6600 LBJ Freeway, Suite 275
Dallas, Texas 75240
Telephone: (214) 446-6684
Fax: (214) 446-6692
robert.kelly@kelly-krause.com